



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Chester Middle

Chester

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 716

Principal: Gail R. hamilton

Superintendent: Mr. Larry Heath

Board Chair: Denise Lawson

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	At-Risk	At-Risk	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2007	At-Risk	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2006	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT

0

GOOD

0

AVERAGE

1

BELOW AVERAGE

21

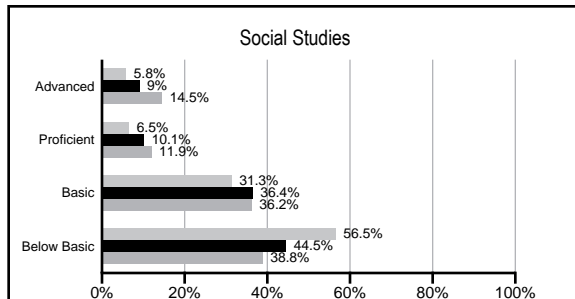
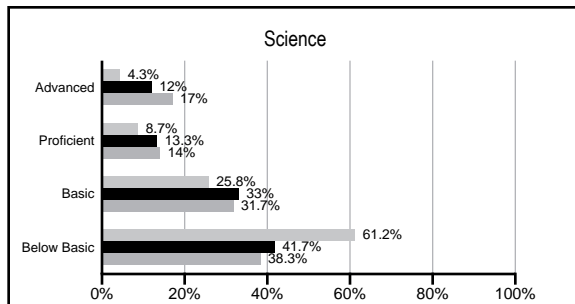
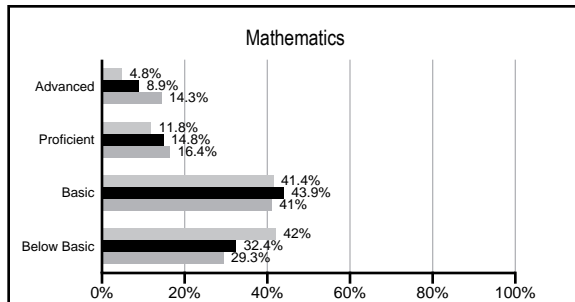
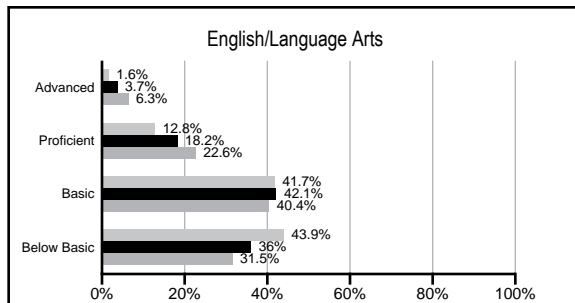
AT-RISK

16

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/02/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Middle Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

PACT PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.

READING - GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	31	44	23	2
Nation	27	43	27	2
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

MATH - GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	29	39	24	7
Nation	30	39	24	7
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

SCIENCE - GRADE 8 (2005)

South Carolina	46	31	21	2
Nation	43	30	24	3
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2008

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	96.0%	94.1%
English 1	96.4%	94.1%
Physical Science	0%	0%
All Subjects	96.2%	92.2%

SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Goal: TBD

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined
 NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

Chester Middle [Chester]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=716)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	16.8%	Up from 10.7%	15.5%	19.4%
Retention rate	3.1%	Up from 1.9%	2.8%	1.8%
Attendance rate	94.4%	Up from 94.0%	95.3%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	11.7%	Up from 10.8%	11.7%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	10.7%	Up from 9.6%	13.8%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.8%	Down from 4.1%	1.3%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	1.3%	Up from 0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=60)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	55.0%	Up from 35.6%	53.7%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	66.7%	Down from 78.0%	63.5%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	8.2%	Up from 7.4%	8.3%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	74.7%	Down from 80.4%	80.8%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	93.9%	Up from 93.1%	94.9%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$46,072	Up 5.2%	\$44,571	\$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.1%	Down from 4.2%	3.0%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	No Change	2.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	12.7 to 1	Down from 17.8 to 1	20.1 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	85.7%	Up from 84.4%	88.6%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Below Average	Down from Good	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,620	Up 10.1%	\$7,274	\$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	67.3%	Down from 69.3%	63.4%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	62.5%	Down from 65.0%	58.8%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	52.4%		61.9%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	49	202	73
Percent satisfied with learning environment	60.4%	67.7%	80.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	77.1%	65.3%	63.8%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	43.8%	76.2%	79.2%

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Chester Middle School has had an exciting and rewarding year. Low test scores and unfulfilled teaching positions did not hinder the faculty and students from striving to continue to achieve. Faculty and staff were formally trained in data analysis and focused on analysis of test scores to determine areas of weakness. Plans for improving test scores and achieving success were discussed with individual students and goals were set. Incentives were generated within grade levels, teams and also school-wide.

The BRIDGES Academy, which is a school within a school designed to help those with behavior problems, entered its second year. Success was indicated by the lower number of discipline infractions and the number of students that had to return to the academy during the year. Academic assistance was offered before, during, and after school. Additional assistance was also provided during the school day through a pull-out program during elective time. Odyssey, a technology-based curriculum, was available to all students and teachers to enhance learning in the core subjects. Fifteen Promethean boards were also added to enhance teaching and promote learning. A new program was created by our Explore/Guidance teacher to promote positive character and behavior. The group was called King's Crew. It was open to all students but membership had to be earned through good behavior at school, home and in the community. The Robotics teams competed at the regional and state levels and placed in the top twenty. Robotics will be offered as a course next year, which will feed into the Mechatronics course at the high school.

Chester Middle School is very proud of its students for their academic achievements. There was a noted increase in the number of students that earned AB and A Honor Roll. Five students were named as Junior Scholars. Two students were selected to attend the Governor's School.

As we move into the new school year, Chester Middle School is excited about implementing new programs such as The Academy of Reading and single gender classes to meet the recommendations made by the Leadership Team, parents and faculty. We encourage parents and community to become involved in the educational process and the lives of our students. It takes all of us working together to ensure the success of our young people.

Gail R. Hamilton Selena Gray
Principal President SIC

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